

Items of Interest

—The greatest diving feat ever attempted was that of the raising of £10,000 treasure that sank with a steamer near Seal Rocks, New South Wales. Every box of sovereigns that went to the bottom has been saved by the men who worked under the sea at a depth of twenty-seven fathoms. At times the divers were subject to a pressure of seventy to seventy-five pounds to the square inch, causing them great suffering.

—The following statement shows the cost of sustaining the various branches of the Federal Government for the fiscal year ending June 30:

Legislative—	1896.
Senate.....	\$ 1,102,116 87
House of Representatives.....	2,843,823 08
Legislative, miscellaneous.....	90,177 76
Public printer.....	3,678,127 71
Library of Congress.....	318,974 40
Botanic gardens.....	22,744 30
Court of Claims.....	891,993 74
Executive proper—	
White House.....	95,667 34
Civil Service Commission.....	97,251 70
Executive departments—	
State.....	965,317 91
Treasury.....	66,032,897 03
War.....	52,601,516 16
Navy.....	26,943,908 46
Interior.....	158,050,042 39
Postoffice.....	11,719,016 60
Agricultural.....	2,897,241 65
Department of Labor.....	163,935 13
Department of Justice.....	302,925 39
Judicial.....	7,658,618 50

Total actual expenses.....\$336,839,221.54

The following statement shows the estimate of expenses for the present fiscal year, as submitted to Congress by the Secretary of the Treasury:

Legislative.....	\$ 7,958,817 40
Executive proper.....	199 680 00
State Department.....	1,888,278 76
Treasury Department.....	143,312,278 19
War Department.....	54,489,143 45
Navy Department.....	30,459,956 20
Interior Department.....	161,716,415 92
Post-Office Department.....	7,620,669 25
Agricultural Department.....	2,542,692 00
Department of Labor.....	192,370 00
Department of Justice.....	7,810,772 00

Total.....\$418,091,073.17

The total revenue and expenditures of the Government for the last four fiscal years are given below:

	Total revenue.	Total expenditures.
1893.....	\$385,819,628 78	\$383,477,954 49
1894.....	297,722,019 25	367,525,279 83
1895.....	313,390,075 11	356,195,298 29
1896.....	326,976,200 38	352,179,446 08

It will be noticed that, with the exception of 1893, the expenditures of the Government have exceeded the revenues, the excess being \$69,803,260.58 in 1894, \$42,805,223.18, in 1895, and \$25,203,245.70 in 1896.

For the first nine months of the current fiscal year ended March 31 the revenues of the Government from all sources had reached a total of \$242,785,051.24, while the expenditures during the same period amounted to \$281,690,332.18, or a deficit of \$38,905,280.93 in the revenues.—*Religious Telescope*.

Literary Notes

The Preacher's Magazine is worthy of its name. The leading sermon is entitled "The Church and the True Christian," and is by the Rev. Hugh Price Hughes, M. A. An excellent portrait, as he appears in the pulpit, accompanies the sermon. Rev. J. L. Campbell, D. D., has contributed a Thanksgiving

Sermon of remarkable power. Mark Guy Pearse writes on the "Queen of Sheba." Rev. J. B. Whitford on "Christian Ripeness," and Rev. Johnson Barker furnishes notes for a Harvest Sermon. The Homiletical department is most complete, containing many Outlines by distinguished preachers, mostly referring to Thanksgiving Day. The Notes on the International Sunday-school Lessons by William E. Ketcham, D. D., the editor, which have created so much attention in the past, again give most excellent suggestions. The Outlines on the Golden Text, and the Notes and Illustrations, and many miscellaneous articles relating to Thanksgiving, serve to make up a most helpful number of a Magazine which every preacher should have. The subscription price is \$1.50 per year, single numbers 15 cents. Wilbur B. Ketcham, publisher, 2 Cooper Union, New York.

"A Glimpse of the Moonshiners" is a title suggestive of fresh fact entertainingly revealed, and happily is this consummation reached by Emil O. Peterson in *The Chautauquan* for November. In the same number is given a most diverting account of "Thanksgiving on Herring Hill"—a story of darky duplicity told with appreciative humor by Julia M. Tenny; while as more solid mind food are offered an historical study on "Imperial Germany," by Prof. H. P. Judson of The University of Chicago, a scientific paper entitled "What We Have Learned About Lightning Since the Time of Franklin," by Prof. John Trowbridge of Harvard, and a statistical review of "The Economic Power of Germany," signed with the well-accredited pseudonym "XX."

No progressive and aggressive preacher can fail to be interested in the October number of *THE HOMILETIC REVIEW*. The opening article in the Review Section is a most lucid illustrated presentation of "The Plan of the Sermon," by Professor William Garden Blaikie, D.D., LL.D. Quite as suggestive and practical to young sermonizers will Dr. D. J. Burrell's paper, on "What Not to Preach," be found by those who read it. The doctor's sermon so called has several important heads: First, Don't Preach Asides; Second, Don't Preach Heights and Depths; Third, Don't Preach Infinitesimals; Fourth, Don't Preach Negations; Fifth, Don't Preach Personalities; Sixth, Don't Preach Isms and Oligies; Seventh, Don't Preach Rhetoric. The doctor's peroration adds: "So much for the Don'ts. And what is left to do? One thing—preach the gospel. All doctrines and all ethics radiate from the center." For the preacher who wishes to know how the leaders in the pulpits the world over preach, inspiration and impulse will be found in such sermons as that of Dr. Henry C. Potter, Bishop of New York, preached in Westminster Abbey, on "The Individual and Society"; of Dr. E. Fitch Burr, author of "Ecce Coelum," on "The Church as Center"; of Dr. Emil Zittel, Dean in Carlsruhe, Germany, on "Christ's Pentecostal Substitute"; of Dr. A. J. F. Behrends, on "The Function and Value of Scripture"; and of Dr. W. S. Dauley, on "The Ideal Earnest Life"; and in such sketches as those from Dr. J. Monro Gibson of London, on "The Glory of Christian Living"; from Canon Charles Gore of Westminster, on "What a Soul May Become"; from Principal A. M. Fairbairn, of Oxford, on "The Greatest Event in History"; and from Canon William John Knox Little, of Worcester, Eng., on "The Blessing of High Failure."

We have not space to write of the excellency of the other departments of this Review. The Aids to Bible Study; the Problem of the Sunday-school; the Prayer-meeting; the Social Problems of the day; Texts and Suggestions; these with many others, make the Review indispensable to the wide-awake preacher and teacher.

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